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~~PURPOSE~~

TO REVIEW THE CURRENT
STATUS OF THE AIR FORCE U-2
PROGRAM

"PROJECT DRAGON LADY"

USAF Declassification/Release Instructions On File

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GENERAL INFORMATION

U-2 Single-place, single-engine jet aircraft for Long-range reconnaissance at extreme altitude

Built by Lockheed Aircraft Corporation

Used by Strategic Air Command

Prime Support - Warner-Robins AMA

Engine: Pratt & Whitney J-57-P-37 or J-57-P-31A

Guel: (Special Type LF-1A)	1053 U.S. Gal.
(Maximum capacity	1360 U.S. Gal.

Design Gross Weight: 17,750 lbs

Wing Span: 80 ft. Length: 49.9 ft.

Bi-cycle-type Landing Gear with Droppable Wing Pogo Sticks

Autopilot, viewfinder, sextant

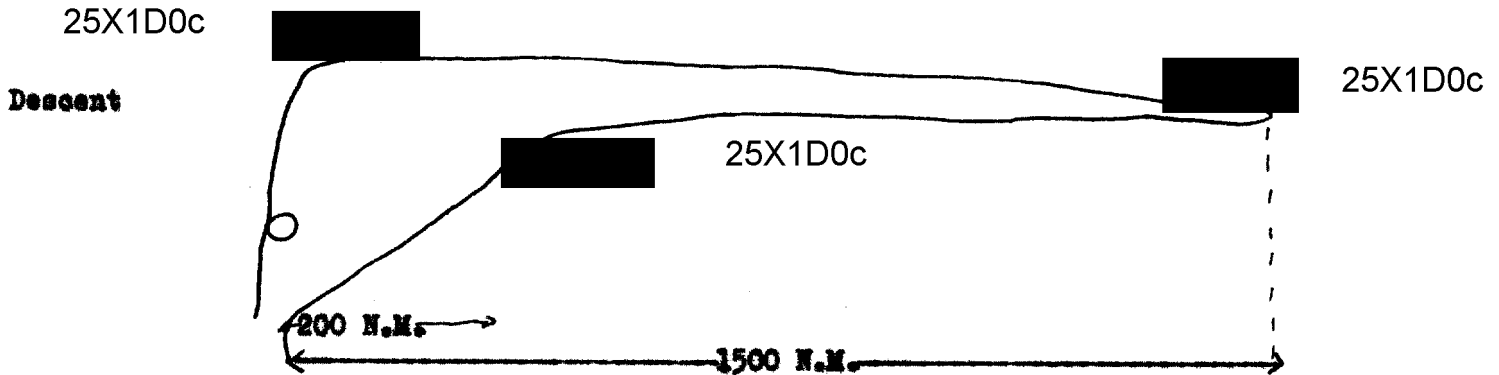
No ejection seat

Combat equipment consists of varied photo and Electronics Packages

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BASIC MISSION PROFILE



T.O. Weight: 17,750 lbs. J-57-P-31 Engine
(Performance decreased slightly with J-57-P-37 Engine)

Cruise Out/Back Military Power - 425 kts. - .74 Mach

Mission Time is 8 hrs

Distance T.O. & Climb 50 ft - 1100 ft.

Distance Land From 50 ft. - 1900 ft

Radius can be increased to 2000 N.M. with 1360 Gal Fuel & T.O.
Weight of 19,750 ft.

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AIRCRAFT CONFIGURATIONS

89 U-2 Aircraft

14 Photo

4 Ferret

25X1D

3 ARDC Research (Weather, Human Factors & Infra-Red)

25X1D

(10 Additional Aircraft beginning in Oct 57)

**All equipments are designed to be inter-changeable packages
and may be carried in most of the various aircraft configurations.**

Driftsight & Tracker Camera

Sextant & Radar

25X1D

Airborne Radar & Radio Monitoring Systems

Automatic Radar Ferret System

**Camera Packages: A-1 (3-6", 1-24"), (A-2 (3-24"), B (1-36"), & C
(1-180").**

**ADDITIONAL PROPOSED CONFIGURATIONS: WEATHER HATCHES, DRONE, TOW
TARGET VERSION**

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PROGRAM DATA

AIRCRAFT SCHEDULE (29 a/c)

	56				57				57						
	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
Photo	1		1	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1			1	
Research						1	1			1					1
Ferret											2	2		2	
							1		1						
								1				2	3		
CUMULATIVE	1	1	2	3	5	7	9	12	14	17	20	22	25	28	29
	1		2	3	5	7	9	12	14	17	20	22	25	28	29

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OPERATIONAL CONCEPT

25X1A

1. Equip and train at [REDACTED]
2. Move to Laughlin AFB - June 57 - as the 4028th and 4029th S.R.S. (Weather) to Join the 4025th S.R.S. (BLACK KNIGHT) RB57D Under the 4080th S.R.W.
3. Will operate as an augmented Sq with detachable capability of deploying one to three detachments for O/S Operations
4. Planned sortie rate - 6 per mo. 40 hrs per a/c
5. July 57 - Planned deployment date of 1st unit

PROBLEM

1. OPS Plan dated and received by WSPO Feb 57
2. Marginal Support Provisioned to Support 4 Simultaneous Operations.
3. Indecision and Non-AF Control

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SUPPLY AND SUPPORT

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Depot Set Up at [REDACTED] in Secure Warehouse.

Five WRAMA People on Detached Service.

Cleared Lockheed Personnel Being Utilized.

Bins Set up; stocks being received; stock records being established; flyaway kits in use.

Operating & Supply Directives Have Been Published.

Wing Slog Published by AMC; Being screened by SAC for Availability of Equipment. Requisitions to be issued for Remaining Equipment (using DRAGON LADY Precedence, 1-47).

AFSD ACTION TAKEN ON COMMON ITEMS.

SQUADRON SLOG	-	92.8%	Complete
FLYAWAY KITS		98.6%	Complete
DEPOT ITEMS		93.4%	Complete

3010 Line Items (339,357#) Received, Not including Peculiar Equipment from Contractors.

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**PROVISIONING - Initial Provisioning Completed with All
Contractors; WRAMA Representatives Participated.
Provisioning Review Meeting to be Held with all
Contractors in Latter Part of 1957.**

**WRAMA has Contractual Authority to Requisition Emergency Spares
Directly from Equipment Manufacturers.**

**Now Supporting Transition Flying and Minimum Flight Training with
Equipment.**

**OBJECTIVE: To Have Complete Support by Deployment Date in July 57.
To Provide Support and Iran for 10 additional aircraft.
To Re-Align supply and Support Concepts to be
Compatible with Operational Concept.**

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MAINTENANCE

Normal SAC (Centralized type) Maintenance to be Utilized.

Common Items: To be Repaired and Replaced Through Normal AF System
(Prime Depots).

Peculiar Items: Contractor Overhaul, Tech. Rep. Assistance in the Field.

U.R. Procedures: U.R.'s on Aircraft or Peculiar Equipment Go From 4028th
S.R.S. to SAC Hq to WSPO. WSPO Takes Corrective action Through
Contractors. Technical Assistance from WADC Labs when desired.

Changes to Aircraft and Equipment: Simplified E.C.P. Procedure
Established; Service Bulletins and modification kit Procedures in use.

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HANDBOOKS: All Equipment Contractors are Furnishing Instruction Books, Equipment Drawings, and Reproducibles.

Lockheed is furnishing Pilot's handbook (Modified -1)
Erection and Maintenance Manual, and Inspection Guide.

SAC desires illustrated parts catalog, -6 Inspection Manual, etc.

WSPO, with AMC Maintenance Assistance, to Review all existing
Data and Handbooks for Adequacy in Light of the Present
Operational Concept.

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TRAINING

**Pilot - Limited Checkout and Flight Training started at Watertown
8 Nov 56 Under Supervision of "Ranch" Permanent Party Personnel**

**Maint - Classroom Instruction Conducted by Contractors - Using
Production and Assembly Operations for O.J.T.**

**Unit - After 16 Mar 57 space Requirements at [REDACTED] allow SAC 25X1A
unrestricted training capability - a/c and equipment will
be available to support operational readiness unit training.**

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PROBLEM AREAS

PROGRAM RAPIDLY ASSUMING ASPECTS OF STANDARD AF PROJECT.

New mission Requirements being formulated.

Useful life of aircraft being extended.

Support provisioned on short-life basis.

Support Provisioned on basic mission concept.

25X1A

SECURITY [REDACTED]

Activation of AF Units delayed.

Indecision on operating site.

Future contractual support methods

Communications

New Requirements of highly classified nature

FUNDING

Additional new requirements exceed presently available funding.

Move toward standard program increases costs.

Handbooks and data

Support of E.W.P.

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SUMMARY

FAST MOVING PROGRAM, ENJOY HIGH PRIORITY.

AIRCRAFT WILL BE AVAILABLE AND OPERATIONAL ON SCHEDULE.

FULL SUPPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MEET DEPLOYMENT DATE.

**ON 16 MARCH 1957 SAC ASSUMES RESPONSIBILITY FOR OPERATIONAL CONTROL
OF RANCH**

15 MAY 1957 - SUPPLY DEPOT MOVES FROM [REDACTED] TO WRAMA & LAUGHLIN AFB.

**1-30 JUNE 1957 - MOVEMENT OF 4028th and 4029th WEATHER SQUADRONS TO
LAUGHLIN AFB.**

25X1A

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